

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Inventor: LAU, et al.

Serial No: Div. of 10/004,584

Filed: December 3, 2001

For: Low Dielectric Constant  
Materials With Polymeric  
Networks

Examiner: D. Truong

Art Unit: 1711

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel all pending claims and add the following claims addressing subject matter in application serial number 10/004,584:

44. (Added) A method of forming a low dielectric constant material, comprising:  
providing a first component that comprises a polymeric strand;  
providing a second component that comprises a molecule having a central portion that comprises a silicon atom and with at least three arms extending from the central portion, wherein each of the arms includes a backbone having a reactive group; and forming a polymeric network from at least the first component and the second component, wherein the first component and the second component form the polymeric network in a reaction involving at least one of the reactive groups when the first and second components are thermally activated.